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MEMORANDUM

To: Eligible Districts and Head Starts
From: Debbie Hunsaker, Instructional Innovations Unit Director
Date: December 5, 2011
Subject: Update on Striving Reader's Application Process

The scoring rubric that the grant reviewers will be using is now on the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) Web site. Go to www.opi.mt.gov. Then, click on programs, then instructional innovations, then the Montana Striving Reader's Project. The MSRP Scoring Rubric is within the application tab. The scoring rubric specific for Head Starts and established special education preschools will be posted on the website soon. The scoring rubrics are meant to be guides and not absolutes of what must be included in each section. Also, do not feel that every activity, material, process, or procedure has to currently be in place to be exemplary or meets standards. Clear descriptions and examples of what the district and school are going to do can also fall into exemplary.

Each district grant may include up to 10 pages of appendices. These pages are in addition to the 45 pages within the narrative.

The use of iWalkthrough is a requirement of the grant. The OPI staff researched all possible avenues for integration of other walkthrough systems and was unable to find a solution for all of them to work together. For more information on the reasons behind this decision, please view the iWalkthrough webinar on the Montana Striving Reader's Project page under the assessment tab.